



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
State Fire Safety Board

Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B
3101 Technology Blvd, Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910
Thursday, December 6, 2018
1:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lynn Artman, Representing Professional Engineers (via conference call)
Julie Bulson, Representing Hospital Administrators (via conference call)
John Enkemann, Vice Chair, Representing the Registered Architects (via conference call)
Jeffery Green, Representing Fire Department Upper Peninsula (via conference call)
Lindsey Haley, Representing Owners of Adult Foster Care Facilities
Mark Jensen, Representing the Liquefied Petroleum/Flammable Gas Industry
Paul Korte, Representing the Nursing Home Industry (via conference call)
Andrew Lenaghan, Chairman, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Kenneth Letts, Representing the Flammable Liquids Industry
Jeramie Morris, Representing the Chemical Manufacturing Industry
Kassandra Renneberg, Representing Places of Public Assemblage
Ron Sabin, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal/Director, Ex-Officio Member
Robert Williams, Representing the Building Trades

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tina Kerr, Representing School Board Administrators/Members
David Piche, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Michael Powers, Representing the Licensed Electrical Contractors

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Ann Searles, LARA/Bureau of Fire Services, Deputy Director
Kevin Stone, LARA/Bureau of Fire Services, Contractor
Brian Williams, LARA/Bureau of Fire Services, Plan Review Specialist

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

The State Fire Safety Board meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Chairman Andrew Lenaghan asked all in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Lenaghan advised attendees of the emergency exiting procedures at the bureau and asked Kevin Stone, acting Executive Secretary to the Board, to take a roll call of members present. A quorum was determined present. Chairman Lenaghan welcomed all attendees.

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared per the Attorney General's Office, board members must attend meetings in person in order to vote on decisions. This statement was issued

through the Attorney General's office after the Bureau of Construction Codes was informed that the State Fire Safety Board members were voting on matters via conference call.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Cassandra Renneberg** and seconded by **Board Member Ron Sabin** to approve the meeting agenda for December 6, 2018, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Board Member Jeramie Morris noticed his first name was misspelled. The Fire Marshal apologized for the spelling error. A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Morris** and seconded by **Board Member Mark Jensen** to approve the October 18, 2018 meeting minutes as amended.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

V. BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES/STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

- a. Fire Reporting:** Fire Marshal Sehmeyer provided the Board with a list of school fires obtained from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for FY2014 through FY2018. The incidents were separated by the various types of schools (preschool, high school, etc.). The Fire Marshal shared that he believes the total number of school fires is underreported due to some school districts not contacting their local fire department and/or the Bureau of Fire Services, especially when small fires occur. Chairman Lenaghan asked who is responsible for reporting the school fires. Fire Marshal Sehmeyer shared that schools are responsible for notifying the local fire department and the Bureau of Fire Services per the New and Existing School, College and University Fire Safety rules. The Fire Marshal added that he believes fire reports in general are underreported due to staffing issues at fire departments and technical difficulties with their third-party software.

Board Member Jensen inquired about the single civilian death listed in FY2018. The Fire Marshal believed this to be an error and will follow up with NFIRS Program Manager Rhonda Howard.

Board Member Sabin asked if the un-submitted fire reports could potentially lead to a lack of funding. The Fire Marshal replied that starting October 1, 2019, training funding using Fireworks Safety Fee Funds will not be granted to the fire departments that do not submit their fire reports for 12 consecutive months.

The Fire Marshal also shared that to date, 117 residential fire fatalities have occurred in Michigan in 2018. There was a total of 96 residential fire fatalities in 2017. The Fire Marshal encouraged the board members to reach out to himself or Kevin Stone if they have further questions between meetings.

- b. **Fireworks Legislation:** The Fire Marshal shared that there are three (3) fireworks related bills that would modify Public Act 256, as proposed. The first bill explains that droughts would be determined through the process currently being used for wildland fire reduction. The second bill would reduce the number of days that Michigan citizens are allowed to set off fireworks. Currently, Michiganders can set off fireworks for every holiday, as well as the day before and after the holiday. If the bill passes, the holidays would be restricted to Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The third bill would include a change in safety and certification fees and it is the Fire Marshal's understanding that the fireworks industry is in support of it. The Fire Marshal added that while attending last week's House Committee hearing in Lansing, the committee was told that there is not an overloading issue with fireworks during comment from a fireworks vendor. However, the Consumer Product Safety Commission has confirmed through testing fireworks seized by the Bureau of Fire Services that fireworks product is being overloaded. The overloaded product seized by the bureau must be destroyed. A destruction method is currently being developed.
- c. **Public Assemblage Legislation:** The Fire Marshal shared that Senate Bill 1173 passed the Senate (38-0) last week. Next, the bill is going to the House however, it is not expected to move. The Fire Marshal is hopeful the bill will be re-introduced next year.
- d. **Class B AFFF Foam Update:** Fire Marshal Sehmeyer shared that he testified before the Natural Resources' Senate Committee on December 5, 2018. As of December 3, 2018, 71% of fire departments in Michigan (737 out of 1,035) have responded to the AFFF foam survey. Of them, 43% report that they possess Class B AFFF Foam, with 34,142 gallons that will have to be disposed of. Solutions, a replacement for the foam, and a potential disposal process are currently being discussed. The Fire Marshal also shared that a poster detailing what to do and what not do with Class B AFFF form is being developed.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Shared in the state fire marshal's report.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **2019 Meeting Schedule:** A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Sabin** and seconded by **Board Member Williams** to approve the 2019 Meeting Schedule. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- b. **Sprinkler Impairments:** Chairman Lenaghan informed the group that Robert Meagher has provided additional information regarding sprinkler impairments. Fire Marshal Sehmeyer informed the Board that Mr. Meagher's concerns would need to be addresses with legislation. Board Member Lindsey Haley asked what Mr. Meagher's best strategy would be. The Fire Marshal stated that he would call Mr. Meagher and explain the legislative process.

c. **Fireworks Appeal:** The fireworks appeal of citation FW15791, issued to Mio Ace Hardware, was called to order at 1:54 p.m. The board voted to uphold the Fire Marshal's decision. The appeal adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Renneberg** and seconded by **Board Member Robert Williams** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on January 17, 2019, at the Bureau of Fire Services located at 3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910.



Chair, State Fire Safety Board

3/21/19

Date:

ANDREW LENAGNON

Printed Name of the State Fire Safety Board Chair